

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the:
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

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PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) **02 JUN 2005**

Applicant's or agent's file reference
39348-211301

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/IB2005/000403

International filing date (day/month/year)

17 February 2005

Priority date (day/month/year)

18 February 2004

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

Int. Cl.⁷ **G01N 33/48, 33/50, 33/52 A61B 5/00 //B65H 29/00**

Applicant

CHAMBERS, Garry et al

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Written Opinion
2 MONTH REMINDER 7/2/05
1 MONTH REMINDER 8/2/05
2 WEEK REMINDER 8/16/05
3 DAY REMINDER 8/23/05
ACTION DUE AND DATE 9/2/05

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU

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**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/IB2005/000403

Box No. I	Basis of the opinion
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1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).

2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

a. type of material

- ☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material

- ☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form

c. time of filing/furnishing

- ☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.

3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/IB2005/000403

Box No. V **Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	YES
	Claims 1-24	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	YES
	Claims 1-24	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-24	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations:

Novelty (N) Inventive Step (IS) Claims 1-24

WO 2003/082091

EP 1484601

JP 62-075263

EP 885591

US 5686047

US 3994593

All of the above documents disclose a method of transporting and/or ejecting a strip.

A comparison of eg US 3994593 with the broadest claim, Claim 22 reveals a pressing element (9) for ejecting a strip (1) from a body where frictional force between the pressing element and at least one surface of the strip (see Fig 4) against which the surface of the pressing element is pressed transports the strip from a first position to a second position (see Column 2, final paragraph and column 3)